CLAIMS:

1. A bed rail comprising

a side rail and

means for clamping a mattress to mount the side rail alongside the mattress, the clamping means including a pair of jaws configured to move relative to one another to clamp the mattress therebetween.

2. The bed rail of claim 1, wherein the clamping means includes a left clamp and a right clamp, each clamp includes a fixed jaw configured to be positioned under the mattress and a movable jaw configured to be positioned over the mattress and to move relative to the fixed jaw to clamp the mattress between the fixed jaw and the movable jaw, and the side rail is coupled to the movable jaws for movement relative to the fixed jaws upon movement of the movable jaws.

3. The bed rail of claim 2, wherein each clamp includes a motion controller including a ratchet, a body that is mounted for movement relative to the ratchet between a motion-limiting position in which the body engages the ratchet to block movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw and to allow movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw upon application of an elevation adjustment force to the movable jaw and a motion-enabling position in which the body releases the ratchet to allow movement of the movable jaw toward and away from the fixed jaw, and a spring configured to move the body toward the ratchet.

4. The bed rail of claim 1, wherein the clamping means includes a motion controller including a ratchet and a body that is mounted for movement relative to the ratchet between a motion-limiting position in which the body engages the ratchet to block movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw and to allow movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw upon application of an elevation adjustment force to the movable jaw and a motion-enabling position in which the body releases the ratchet to allow movement of the movable jaw toward and away from the fixed jaw.

5. The bed rail of claim 1, wherein the clamping means includes a clamp coupled to the side rail and including the jaws.

6. The bed rail of claim 5, wherein one of the jaws is configured to be positioned under the mattress in a fixed position, the other jaw is coupled to the side rail and configured to move relative to the fixed jaw to clamp the mattress

between the jaws, and the clamp includes a motion controller configured to control movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw to clamp the mattress and movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw to unclamp the mattress.

7. The bed rail of claim 1, wherein the clamping means includes motion controller means for controlling relative movement of the jaws toward one another to clamp the mattress and away from one another to unclamp the mattress.

8. The bed rail of claim 1, wherein the clamping means includes a motion controller configured to control relative movement of the jaws toward one another to clamp the mattress and away from one another to unclamp the mattress and the motion controller includes a ratchet and means for engaging the ratchet to clamp the mattress and for releasing the ratchet to unclamp the mattress.

9. A bed rail comprising

a side rail and

a clamp coupled to the side rail and adapted to clamp a mattress to mount the side rail alongside the mattress.

10. The bed rail of claim 9, wherein the clamp includes a fixed jaw and a movable jaw, the fixed jaw is configured to be positioned under the mattress in a fixed position, and the movable jaw is configured to be positioned over the mattress and to move relative to the fixed jaw to clamp the mattress between the fixed jaw and the movable jaw.

11. The bed rail of claim 10, wherein the side rail is coupled to the movable jaw to move relative to the fixed jaw upon movement of the movable jaw.

12. The bed rail of claim 10, wherein the clamp includes a motion controller configured to move between a motion-limiting position blocking movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw and allowing movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw upon application of an elevation adjustment force to the movable jaw and a motion-enabling position allowing movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw.

13. The bed rail of claim 12, wherein the motion controller includes a ratchet and a body configured to slide relative to the ratchet along the movable jaw between the motion-limiting position in which the body engages the ratchet and the motion-enabling position in which the body releases the ratchet.

14. The bed rail of claim 13, wherein the motion controller includes a mover configured to move the body toward the ratchet.

15. The bed rail of claim 13, wherein the motion controller includes a release configured to move the body to the motion-enabling position upon application of a release force to the release by a user.

16. The bed rail of claim 15, wherein the movable jaw is formed to include an interior region and an external access opening, the body is positioned in the interior region, and the release is lug that is coupled to the body and extends through the external access opening for access to the lug by the user.

17. The bed rail of claim 15, wherein the release is coupled to the movable jaw for pivotable movement to move the body to the motion-enabling position.

18. The bed rail of claim 17, wherein the movable jaw is formed to include an interior region and an external access opening, the body is positioned in the interior region, the release is configured as a plate including a body engagement tab configured to engage the body and an actuator tab extending through the external access opening for application of the release force to the actuator tab by the user.

19. The bed rail of claim 18, wherein the movable jaw includes an axle and the plate is formed to include an axle-receiving opening that is positioned between the body engagement tab and the actuator tab and that receives the axle for pivotable movement of the plate about the axle.

20. The bed rail of claim 13, wherein the motion controller includes a leg extending between the fixed jaw and the movable jaw and a guide channel that is formed in the movable jaw and receives the leg to guide movement of the movable jaw along the leg and the ratchet is coupled to the leg.

21. The bed rail of claim 20, wherein the leg includes an outer tube and an inner tube positioned in the outer tube in telescoping relation therewith, the ratchet is coupled to the outer tube, and the inner tube is coupled to the movable jaw.

22. The bed rail of claim 10, wherein the clamp includes a leg and a guide channel, the leg extends between the fixed jaw and the movable jaw, and the guide channel is formed in the movable jaw and receives the leg to guide movement of the movable jaw along the leg.

23. The bed rail of claim 9, wherein the clamp includes a ratchet and a ratchet engagement device configured to move relative to the ratchet to engage and release the ratchet.

24. The bed rail of claim 9, wherein the clamp includes a pair of jaws configured to move relative to one another to clamp the mattress therebetween.

25. The bed rail of claim 24, wherein the clamp includes a motion controller configured to control relative movement of the jaws toward one another to clamp the mattress and away from one another to unclamp the mattress.

26. A bed rail comprising

a side rail and

a clamp including a fixed jaw, a movable jaw coupled to the side rail, and a motion controller, the fixed jaw being configured to be positioned under a mattress in a fixed position, the movable jaw being configured to be positioned over the mattress and to move relative to the fixed jaw to clamp the mattress between the fixed jaw and the movable jaw, the motion controller being configured to move between a motion-limiting position blocking movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw and allowing movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw and a motion-enabling position allowing movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw.

27. The bed rail of claim 26, wherein, in the motion-limiting position, the motion controller is configured to block movement of the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw and, in the absence of application of an elevation adjustment force to the movable jaw, to block movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw to position the movable jaw and the side rail at a selected elevation and the motion controller is configured to allow movement of the movable jaw toward the fixed jaw upon application of the elevation adjustment force to the movable jaw.

28. The bed rail of claim 26, wherein the motion controller includes a ratchet and a body configured to move relative to the ratchet between the motion-limiting position in which the body engages the ratchet and the motion-enabling position in which the body releases the ratchet.

29. The bed rail of claim 28, wherein the motion controller includes a spring configured to move the body toward the ratchet.

30. The bed rail of claim 29, wherein the body is formed to include an interior region and includes a spring retention surface, a pair of spring retention tabs, and a spring alignment tab, the movable jaw includes a spring compression tab, the body is positioned in the interior region and captured between the spring retention surface which is located to one side of the spring and the spring retention tabs which are located to an opposite side of the spring, the spring retention tabs are spaced apart from one another to receive the spring compression tab therebetween for compression of the spring upon movement of the body from the motion-limiting position to the motion-enabling position, and the spring alignment tab extends longitudinally along the spring for engagement therewith to align the spring with the spring compression tab.